GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:406
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2002
FUNDS TO STATES UNDER AIBP
ASHOK KUMAR PATEL;SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to various States for implementing Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) during thelast three years and proposed to be allocated during the current year;

(b) the steps taken by various State Governments to accelerate irrigation facilities in their respective States; and

(c) the amount of assistance utilised by various State Governments in accelerating irrigation facilities during the said period?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI)

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.406 for answer on 22-04-2002 regarding funds to States under AIBP.

(a)to (c) : Irrigation being a State subject, irrigation project, including flood control & drainage are planned, investigated, funded, executed, operated and maintained by the State Governments themselves as per their own priorities. Themain reason for cost and time overruns of irrigation projects include thin spreading of resources by taking up too many irrigation schemes without focusing on their completion, resettlement & rehabilitation of project affected families, land acquisition problem, contractual disputes and litigation, completion of head works first without constructing the distribution system, etc.

Concerned with such a large number of projects spilling over into IX Plan, the Central Governmentlaunched Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme(AIBP) during1996- 97 for accelerating implementation of ongoing irrigation/multi-purpose projects on which substantial progress has been made and which are beyond the resources capability of the State Governments and for other major and medium irrigation projects which are in advanced stage of construction and could yield irrigation benefits in next four agricultural seasons.

Central Loan Assistance(CLA) of about Rs.5909 crores hasbeen released to various States during the last 3 years (1999-2000,2000-2001,2001-2002) including Rs.473 crores released to 13 projects under Fast Track Programme. During the current year an allocation of Rs.2800 crore has been made under AIBP including for Fast Track projects.

The releases under AIBP are made after utilization certificate is furnished by the State Governmentfor past releases and on the basis of monitoring reports of the Central Water Commission on physical progress of works.